MARTIN LAW GROUP

1

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

Agnes Martin (SBN 217074)

3500 W. Olive Avenue, Suite 300

Burbank, CA. 91505

Telephone: 800.910.4859 Facsimile: 800.910.4859 agnes@martinlawgrp.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff Kellie RayLynn Wilson



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

KELLIE RAYLYNN WILSON,

Plaintiff,

VS.

ONEMAIN FINANCIAL, INC.; and DOES 1 to 10, inclusive,

Defendant(s).

Cate 10-3-87495H

COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR **.IURY TRIAL FOR:**

- 1. VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT [47 U.S.C. § 227]
- 2. VIOLATIONS OF THE ROSENTHAL FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT [CAL. CIV. CODE § 1788]

COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

I. INTRODUCTION

Kellie RayLynn Wilson ("Plaintiff") brings this action to secure 1. redress from ONEMAIN FINANCIAL, INC. ("Defendant") for violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act ("TCPA"), 47 U.S.C. § 227 and Rosenthal

COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

Fair Debt Collection Practices Act ("RFDCPA"), CAL. CIV. CODE § 1788. The TCPA is a federal statute that broadly regulates the use of automated telephone equipment. Among other things, the TCPA prohibits certain unsolicited marketing calls, restricts the use of automatic dialers or prerecorded messages, and delegates rulemaking authority to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"). The RFDCPA prohibits debt collectors from engaging in abusive, deceptive and unfair practices in connection with the collection of consumer debts.

II. JURISDICTION

- 2. Jurisdiction in this Court is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 as Plaintiff's claims arise under the laws of the United States. Jurisdiction in this Court is also proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367 as Plaintiff's RFDCPA claim is so related to Plaintiff's TCPA claim that they form part of the same case or controversy under Article III of the United States Constitution.
- 3. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because the acts and transactions alleged in this Complaint occurred here, Plaintiff resides here, and Defendant transacts business here.

III. <u>PARTIES</u>

- 4. Plaintiff is an individual, residing at a permanent residence in Los Angeles County, 4073 ½ 8th Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90008. Plaintiff is a natural person from whom a debt collector seeks to collect a consumer debt which is due and owing or alleged to be due and owing from such person. Thus, Plaintiff is a "debtor" as defined by the RFDCPA, CAL. CIV. CODE § 1788.2(h).
- 5. Defendant is a national corporation with its principal place of business located at 6801 Colwell Blvd, Irving, TX 75039.

- 6. In the ordinary course of business, regularly, on behalf of itself or others, Defendant engages in debt collection. Thus, Defendant is a "debt collector" as defined by the RFDCPA, CAL. CIV. CODE § 1788.2(c). Defendant regularly engages in the collection of debt by telephone in several states including, California.
- 7. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, or in any other form, of Defendants DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, and each of them, are unknown to Plaintiff, who therefore sues them by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will seek leave to amend this Complaint to show the true names and capacities of DOES 1 through 10 should they be discovered.

IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 8. Within one year prior to the filing of this action, Defendant contacted Plaintiff to collect a debt allegedly incurred by Plaintiff as a consumer personal loan ("alleged debt"). Defendant identifies the alleged debt by account number 0501090141846. The alleged debt is money, property or their equivalent, due or owing or alleged to be due or owing from a natural person by reason of a consumer credit transaction, which qualifies as "consumer debt," as defined by RFDCPA, CAL. CIV. CODE § 1788.2(f).
- 9. At all times relevant to this action, Defendant owned, operated and/or controlled telephone numbers 800-202-1266 and 323-856-5500. At all times relevant to this action, Defendant called Plaintiff from, but not limited to, telephone numbers 800-202-1266 and 323-856-5500.
- 10. Within one year prior to the filing of this action, Defendant regularly and repeatedly called Plaintiff at Plaintiff's cellular telephone number (323) 679 7678.
- 11. Within one year prior to the filing of this action, Defendant caused Plaintiff's telephone to ring repeatedly and continuously to annoy Plaintiff.

- 12. Within one year prior to the filing of this action, Defendant communicated with Plaintiff with such frequency as to be unreasonable under the circumstances and to constitute harassment.
- 13. Between January 1, 2013 and July 30, 2013, Defendant called Plaintiff no less than three hundred and twenty five (325) times.
- 14. Within one year prior to the filing of this action, Defendant repeatedly called Plaintiff multiple times over the course of one day for the purpose of collecting the alleged debt. Plaintiff received daily and weekly calls from "Mike", a representative of defendant, who demanded payment from plaintiff. Plaintiff told "Mike" numerous times to stop calling her on her cellular telephone. Plaintiff continued to receive an unreasonable number of calls despite her requests for defendant to stop the continuous calls. For example, on or about, but not limited to, between, June 1, 2013 and July 30, 2013, Defendant called Plaintiff no less than ten (10) times times despite having been told to stop calling her on her cellular telephone.
- 15. Defendant's conduct as described in detail above was done to harass, oppress, or abuse Plaintiff.
- 16. Defendant's conduct as described in detail above amounted to an unfair or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect the alleged debt.

V. CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of the Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, CAL. CIV. CODE § 1788)

- 17. Plaintiff incorporates herein by reference all of the above paragraphs of this complaint as though fully set forth herein at length.
- 18. Defendant violated the RFDCPA. Defendant's violations include, but are not limited to, the following:
- (a) Defendant violated CAL. CIV. CODE § 1788.11(d) by causing a telephone to ring repeatedly or continuously to annoy the person called; and

15 16

> 17 18

> 19 20

21 22

24

23

25 26

> 27 28

- Defendant violated CAL. CIV. CODE § 1788.11(e) by communicating, (b) by telephone or in person, with the debtor with such frequency as to be unreasonable and to constitute an harassment to the debtor under the circumstances; and
- Defendant violated CAL. CIV. CODE § 1788.17 by collecting or (c) attempting to collect a consumer debt without complying with the provisions of Sections 1692b to 1692j, inclusive, of . . . Title 15 of the United States Code (Fair Debt Collection Practices Act).
- Defendant violated CAL. CIV. CODE § 1788.17 by violating 15 (i) U.S.C. § 1692d by engaging in conduct, the natural consequence of which is to harass, oppress or abuse any person in connection with the collection of the alleged debt; and
- Defendant violated CAL. CIV. CODE § 1788.17 by violating 15 (ii) U.S.C. § 1692d(5) by causing Plaintiff's phone to ring or engaging Plaintiff in telephone conversations repeatedly; and
- Defendant violated CAL. CIV. CODE § 1788.17 by violating 15 U.S.C. § 1692f by using unfair or unconscionable means in connection with the collection of an alleged debt.
- Defendant's acts, as described above, were done intentionally with 19. the purpose of coercing Plaintiff to pay the alleged debt.
- As a result of the foregoing violations of the RFDCPA, Defendant is liable to Plaintiff for declaratory judgment that Defendant's conduct violated the RFDCPA, actual damages, statutory damages, and attorney's fees and costs.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION VI.

(Violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227)

- 48. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 49. Defendant violated the TCPA. Defendant's violations include, but are not limited to the following:
- (a) Within four years prior to the filing of this action, on multiple occasions, Defendant violated TCPA 47 U.S.C. § 227 (b)(1)(A)(iii) which states in pertinent part, "It shall be unlawful for any person within the United States . . . to make any call (other than a call made for emergency purposes or made with the prior express consent of the called party) using any automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice to any telephone number assigned to a . . . cellular telephone service . . . or any service for which the called party is charged for the call.
- (b) Within four years prior to the filing of this action, on multiple occasions, Defendant willfully and/or knowingly contacted Plaintiff at Plaintiff's cellular telephone using an artificial prerecorded voice or an automatic telephone dialing system and as such, Defendant knowing and/or willfully violated the TCPA.
- 50. As a result of Defendant's violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B). If the Court finds that Defendant knowingly and/or willfully violated the TCPA, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), for each and every violation pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B) and 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C).
- 51. Plaintiff is also entitled to seek injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that judgment be entered against Defendant for the following:

VII. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

- (a) An injunction prohibiting Defendant from contacting Plaintiff on Plaintiff's cellular telephone using an automated dialing system pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(A); and
- (b) Actual damages pursuant to CAL. CIV. CODE § 1788.30(a); and
- (c) As a result of Defendant's violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1), Plaintiff is entitled to and requests five hundred dollars (\$500.00) in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B); and
- (d) As a result of Defendant's willful and/or knowing violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1), Plaintiff is entitled to and requests treble damages, as provided by statute, up to one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), for each and every violation pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B) and 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C); and
- (e) Statutory damages pursuant to CAL. CIV. CODE § 1788.30(b); and
- (f) Costs and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to CAL. CIV. CODE § 1788.30(c); and
- (g) Awarding Plaintiff any pre-judgment and post-judgment interest as may be allowed under the law; and
- (h) For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

VII. DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Please take notice that Plaintiff demands a trial by jury in this action.

Dated: 11/25/13

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, MARTIN LAW GROUP

By:

Agnes Martin
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Case 2:13-cv-08749-SH Document 1 Filed 11/26/13 Page 9 of 11 Page ID #:19 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

CIVIL COVER SHEET

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS (Chec	k box if you are repres	enting yourself 🔲)	DEFENDANTS	(Check box if you are rep	resenting yourself []
Kellie RayLynn Wilson			ONEMAIN FINANCIAL	INC:	3
(b) County of Residence	of First Listed Plaint	iff Los Angeles	County of Resider	nce of First Listed Defend	dant
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASE	s)		(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASE	S ONLY)	
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, representing yourself, prov				me, Address and Telephone elf, provide the same inforr	
Agnes Martin, Martin Law Gro 3500 W. Olive Avenue, Suite 3 Burbank, CA 91505					
II. BASIS OF JURISDICT	TON (Place an X in on	e box only.)	. CITIZENSHIP OF PRI (Place an X in one box	NCIPAL PARTIES-For Di for plaintiff and one for de	efendant)
1. U.S. Government Plaintiff	3. Federal Qu Government	Not a Party)	tizen of This State X tizen of Another State		Principal Place PTF DEF 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 5 4 5 5 14 5 15 14 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15
2. U.S. Government Defendant	4. Diversity (In of Parties in It		tizen or Subject of a preign Country	3 3 Foreign Nation	☐ 6 ☐ 6
× Proceeding 5	tate Court	Appellate Court	Reopened Dis	nsferred from Another	Multi- District cigation
V. REQUESTED IN COM	IPLAINT: JURY DE	MAND: X Yes			
CLASS ACTION under I		′es X No		NDED IN COMPLAINT:	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	(Cite the U.S. Civil Statut	e under which you are filing	g and write a brief statemen	t of cause. Do not cite jurisdic	ctional statutes unless diversity.)
Unlawful Debt Collection Pra	ctices and Telephone Co	nsumer Protection Act			
VII. NATURE OF SUIT (Diace an Y in one ho	v only)			
OTHER STATUTES	CONTRACT	REAL PROPERTY CONT.	IMMIGRATION	PRISONER PETITIONS	PROPERTY RIGHTS
	110 insurance	240 Torts to Land	462 Naturalization	Habeas Corpus:	820 Copyrights
375 False Claims Act 400 State	120 Marine	245 Tort Product	☐ Application	463 Alien Detainee	830 Patent
Reapportionment		Liability 290 All Other Real	465 Other Immigration Actions	510 Motions to Vacate Sentence	840 Trademark
410 Antitrust	130 Miller Act	Property	TORTS	530 General	SOCIAL SECURITY
430 Banks and Banking	Instrument	TORTS	PERSONAL PROPERTY	535 Death Penalty	861 HIA (1395ff)
450 Commerce/ICC	150 Recovery of Overpayment &	PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane	370 Other Fraud	Other:	862 Black Lung (923)
460 Deportation	Enforcement of	315 Airplane	371 Truth in Lending	540 Mandamus/Other	863 DIWC/DIWW (405 (g))
470 Racketeer Influ-	Judgment	☐ Product Liability	380 Other Personal	550 Civil Rights	☐ 864 SSID Title XVI
enced & Corrupt Org.	151 Medicare Act	320 Assault, Libel & Slander	Property Damage	555 Prison Condition	865 RSI (405 (g))
x 480 Consumer Credit	152 Recovery of Defaulted Student	330 Fed. Employers'	☐ 385 Property Damage Product Liability	560 Civil Detainee Conditions of	FEDERAL TAX SUITS
490 Cable/Sat TV	Loan (Excl. Vet.)	☐ Liability ☐ 340 Marine	BANKRUPTCY	Confinement	870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or
850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange	153 Recovery of Overpayment of	345 Marine Product	422 Appeal 28 USC 158	FORFEITURE/PENALTY 625 Drug Related	Defendant) 871 IRS-Third Party 26 USC
890 Other Statutory	Vet. Benefits		423 Withdrawal 28	☐ Seizure of Property 21	7609
Actions	160 Stockholders'	350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle	USC 157	USC 881 690 Other	
891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental	Suits	☐ Product Liability	CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights		
Matters	190 Other Contract	☐ 360 Other Personal Injury	441 Voting	710 Fair Labor Standards	
895 Freedom of Info.	195 Contract	362 Personal Injury-	442 Employment	Act 720 Labor/Mgmt.	
896 Arbitration	Product Liability	☐ Med Malpratice ☐ 365 Personal Injury-	443 Housing/	Relations	
	196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY	Product Liability	☐ Accomodations	740 Railway Labor Act	
899 Admin. Procedures Act/Review of Appeal of Agency Decision	210 Land Condemnation	367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury	445 American with Disabilities- Employment 446 American with	751 Family and Medical Leave Act 790 Other Labor	
950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability	Disabilities-Other 448 Education	Litigation 791 Employee Ret. Inc. Security Act	
01117 07:0					
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:	Case Number		V15-8	119	
CV-71 (11/13)		CIV	IL COVER SHEET	8 6	Page 1 of 3

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

VIII. VENUE: Your answers to the questions below will determine the division of the Court to which this case will most likely be initially assigned. This initial assignment is subject to change, in accordance with the Court's General Orders, upon review by the Court of your Complaint or Notice of Removal.

uestion A: Was this case removed fro	om .	STATE CASE WAS PEN	IDING IN TI	HE COUN	ITY OF:	INITI	AL DIVISION IN CAC	D IS:
tate court?		☐ Los Angeles				Western		
Yes X No			uis Ohisno				Western	
"no, " go to Question B. If "yes," check to tox to the right that applies, enter the corresponding division in response to		☐ Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo ☐ Orange				Southern		
Question D, below, and skip to Section IX	C. Riv	Riverside or San Bernardino				Eastern		
Question B: Is the United States, or or	ne of	If the United States, or on	e of its age	ncies or	employees, is a party, is it:		, muni	
ts agencies or employees, a party to t action?		A PLAINTIFF?			A DEFENDANT?		INITIAL DIVISION IN CACD IS:	
Yes X No		Then check the box below for the county in which the majority of DEFENDANTS reside.			Then check the box below for the county in which the majority of PLAINTIFFS reside.			
f "no, " go to Question C. If "yes," check		s Angeles		Los Angeles			Western	
box to the right that applies, enter the corresponding division in response to	Ve	Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo		Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo		Luis	Western	
Question D, below, and skip to Section I	X	range		Orange			Southern	
	Ri	Riverside or San Bernardino		Riverside or San Bernardino			Eastern	
		Other		Other			Western	
Question C: Location of plaintiffs, defendants, and claims? (Make only one selection per row)	A. Los Angeles County	B. Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo Counties	C. Orange (1	D. Riverside or San Bernardino Counties		E. de the Central ct of California	F. Other
Indicate the location in which a majority of plaintiffs reside:	X] .				
Indicate the location in which a majority of defendants reside:]				X
Indicate the location in which a majority of claims arose:	X]				<u> </u>
			τ				1	
C.1. is either of the following true?	lf so, check ti	he one that applies:	C.2. Is		of the following true? If so	, check th	e one that applies	:
2 or more answers in Colum	n C				more answers in Column D			
only 1 answer in Column C a	and no answe	rs in Column D		only	1 answer in Column D and	no answer	s in Column C	
Your case will initially be assigned to the SOUTHERN DIVISION. Enter "Southern" in response to Question D, below.			Your case will initially be assigned to the EASTERN DIVISION. Enter "Eastern" in response to Question D, below. If none applies, go to the box below.					
If none applies, answe	er question C	2 to the right.			If none applies, go	to the box	below.	
		Your case wil WE Enter "Western" in	STERN DIV	ISION.				c
Question D: Initial Division?					INITIAL DIV	ISION IN C	ACD	n 0

Case 2:13-cv-08749-SH Document 1 Filed 11/26/13 Page 11 of 11 Page ID #:21 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

CIVIL COVER SHEET

IX(a). IDENTICAL CAS	ES: Has this acti	on been previously filed in this court and dismissed, remanded or closed?	X NO	YES				
If yes, list case number	er(s):							
IX(b). RELATED CASES	: Have any case	s been previously filed in this court that are related to the present case?	X NO	☐ YES				
If yes, list case numb	er(s):							
Civil cases are deemed re	elated if a previou	isly filed case and the present case:						
(Check all boxes that appl	y) 🔲 A. Arise fr	rom the same or closely related transactions, happenings, or events; or						
	B. Call for	determination of the same or substantially related or similar questions of law and fact	or					
	C. For oth	ner reasons would entail substantial duplication of labor if heard by different judges; or	r					
	D. Involve	e the same patent, trademark or copyright <u>and</u> one of the factors identified above in a	, b or c also is pr	esent.				
- the	The CV-71 (JS-44)	DATE: Civil Cover Sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement or supplement of the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required prose of statistics, venue and initiating the civil docket sheet. (For more detailed instru	t the filing and s pursuant to Loca	il unie 3. i 12 HOT Hier				
Key to Statistical codes relat								
*		Substantive Statement of Cause of Action						
Nature of Suit Code 861	Abbreviation HIA	All claims for health insurance benefits (Medicare) under Title 18, Part A, of the Social Security Act, as amended. Also, include claims by hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, etc., for certification as providers of services under the program. (42 U.S.C. 1935FF(b))						
862	BL	All claims for "Black Lung" benefits under Title 4, Part B, of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969. (30 U.S.C. 923)						
863	DIWC	All claims filed by insured workers for disability insurance benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended; plus all claims filed for child's insurance benefits based on disability. (42 U.S.C. 405 (g))						
863	DIWW	All claims filed for widows or widowers insurance benefits based on disability under amended. (42 U.S.C. 405 (g))	Title 2 of the So	ocial Security Act, as				
864	SSID	All claims for supplemental security income payments based upon disability filed unamended.	nder Title 16 of t	he Social Security Act, as				
865	RSI	All claims for retirement (old age) and survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social S	Security Act, as a	mended.				